**Water and Sewer Committee Meeting**

**February 14, 2019**

**9:00 a.m.**

The following were in attendance:

Bob Sandifer, Jody Kleckley, Bob Renner and Laurie Sanders, Committee Members; Iris Hill, ex-officio. Also in attendance were Patrick Zemp and Patrick Brown, and Brandon Campbell, Project Manager, of Wharton Smith.

Chairman Sandifer called the meeting to order. Bob Renner moved to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2018 meeting, seconded by Jody Kleckley and approved unanimously.

Town Administrator Hill passed out the latest progress report from engineer Arnold Ellison and introduced Brandon Campbell, Project Manager from Wharton Smith to give the Committee an update on the progress of the Reverse Osmosis project. Mr. Campbell told the Committee the project is on schedule to be completed by October 23, 2019. The foundation permit is in-hand to bring the Clearwell up to a finish floor elevation. Patrick Brown is in the process of reviewing those plans. Slab rebar is being installed. The concrete slab is set to be poured on February 23, 2019. The slab was scheduled to be poured in March, so is ahead of schedule. Vertical wall construction will be started immediately after the concrete is finished. Concentrate discharge pipe is being laid with the assistance of divers, out into the ocean from beach access 26. The SCADA system will be provided by Dorsett Technologies. The selection of an electrical contractor is forthcoming. A load schedule has been delivered by Wharton Smith to South Carolina Electric and Gas for the transformer. Chairman Sandifer asked if procurements were on track. Mr. Campbell stated that Wharton Smith was confident the procurement items were addressed. Directional drilling contracts are moving forward. After the drilling is completed for the concentrate discharge line out into the ocean, the contractor will drill under Palmetto and Myrtle Street. The remaining lines that will connect wells 7, 8 and 9 will be open cut in dirt-road areas with minimal repairs to existing sidewalks or ditches required. The Harn equipment has been reviewed and released. Chairman Sandifer asked about the “punch list” date. Mr. Campbell explained that the punch list would consist of minor repairs that would not keep the R/O plant from being fully operational. Mr. Campbell stated, “…putting the plant in operation rests in DHEC’s hands… (and) DHEC will have the final authority to issue a permit to operate.” An audience member asked if there was anything remaining that required a special design. Mr. Campbell said there was not. Jody Kleckley asked if there was anything on the horizon that would impede the process of the project. Mr. Campbell answered, “The coordination effort will always be the SCADA and the electrical coming together at the end and debugging.” Chairman Sandifer asked about the funding deadline of June 2020. Administrator Hill explained that date is when the Town would have to start looking at arbitrage. “We have three years to construct the project from the time we started borrowing the money. That deals with the interest that you have earned on the money that has been sitting at US Bank and Trust…. You can’t make money off the money that you borrowed.” It is unlikely that the plant will still be under construction in June of 2020. Laurie Sanders asked if Mr. Campbell anticipated problems with skilled laborer issues. Mr. Campbell said that is an unknown but that the number of subcontractors being used was small so problems are not anticipated. Chairman Sandifer asked if October 23, 2019 was still the date the plant would be up and running. Mr. Campbell stated there would be an update the week of February 21, 2019 but that the October 23 date is still good. Chairman Sandifer told Administrator Hill, “I would suggest a periodic Water and Sewer Committee meeting to have this kind of a 30-minute meeting. I think it would be very helpful… Once a month?” Administrator Hill told Mr. Sandifer that she would have to check to see what the schedules allow. An audience member asked if the October date was the date good water would be in Edisto Beach homes. Mr. Campbell said he thought it would. A question about Harn’s equipment followed. Mr. Campbell stated, “I don’t believe you have any concern that that system would not be sustainable and able to be adapted in the future. R/O is a process that has been around for a long time…. It is equipment and software that can be managed and adapted through time.” Bob Renner asked how long it would take to flush the current water to R/O water. Patrick Zemp said it would take a matter of days. Mr. Campbell stated, “The water will be pushed out as people operate and use the water.”

There being no further questions or discussion, Jody Kleckley moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Bob Renner and approved unanimously.

 APPROVED BY THE WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE

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 March 21, 2019